

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A cover for a microscope slide, said cover comprising :
a body defining a cavity, for positioning over the microscope slide to form a reaction chamber;
a projection extending from a first end of the body to define a fluid reservoir with the microscope slide, the fluid reservoir being in fluid communication with the cavity;
an outlet at a second end of the cover distal from the first end; and
a locator for controlling and locating the cover.
2. (previously presented): A cover, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity extends the full width of a sample holding region of the microscope slide.
3. (previously presented): The cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein a protrusion extends from the projection, to assist in wicking fluid into the reservoir.
4. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 3, wherein the reservoir is defined by a first section, angled at least at substantially 60° relative to the cavity, and a second section, positioned between the cavity and the first section, and orientated at a reduced angle relative to the cavity, as compared to the first section.

5. (original): A cover as claimed in claim 4, wherein the second section is angled at least at substantially 15°.

6. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cover is made from a polymer material.

7. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity includes a coating of reduced surface roughness than the polymer material.

8. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cavity includes a coating with reduced porosity.

9. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cavity has one or more coatings.

10. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 9, wherein a first coating is a material having similar properties to the material of the slide.

11. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 10, wherein the first coating is silicon dioxide.

12. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 11, wherein a second coating is placed intermediate a first coating to provide improved contact properties between the cover and first coating.

13. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the width of the cavity of the cover is no larger than the width of a microscope slide.

14. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity is substantially planar.

15. - 17. (canceled).

18. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~claim 15~~claim 1, wherein the reservoir is defined between the projection, and legs located on either side of the cover.

19. (currently amended): A cover as claimed in ~~claim 16~~claim 18, wherein legs extend along the sides of the cavity to form the wall portions.

20. (currently amended): A cover according to ~~claim 16~~claim 19, wherein the cover is supported upon the microscope slide on the wall portions.

21. (currently amended): A cover according to ~~claim 15~~claim 1, wherein the cavity extends to an end edge of the cover adjacent the locator.

22. (canceled).

23. (previously presented): A combination of a microscope slide and a cover, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cavity of the cover is arranged to face the microscope slide so as to form a reaction chamber.

24. (currently amended): A method of treatment of a sample on a sample holding region of a microscope slide including locating a cover, as claimed in claim 1, over ~~the slide~~the slide, so that the cavity of the cover faces the slide to form a reaction chamber over the sample holding region, and depositing fluid into the fluid reservoir to allow the fluid to be drawn into the reaction chamber, as required.

25. (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 24, further including sliding the cover relative to the microscope slide to vary a degree of overlap between the cover and the sample holding region, which results in a corresponding variation in the reaction chamber volume.

26. (previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 24, further including sliding the cover relative to the microscope slide until wing structures associated with the cover are

engaged and lifted relative to the microscope slide to pivot the cover into an open condition, and allow fluid to drain from the reaction chamber.

27. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cover has engaging surfaces allowing the cover to be moved relative to the microscope slide.

28. (previously presented): A cover as claimed in claim 27, wherein the engaging surfaces are in the form of wing structures that allow the cover to be engaged and pivoted relative to the microscope slide so as to open the reaction chamber and allow the slide to be cleared of fluid.